

Message Text

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41

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 AF-04 OC-01 CCO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 H-01 INR-05 IO-10 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 RSC-01 SS-15

USIE-00 USSS-00 SY-04 FAA-00 WRD-01 SAB-01 SAM-01

SCA-01 SCS-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 /085 W

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O 241520Z NOV 74 ZFF-6

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7283

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE NIACT IMMEDIATE

USINT BAGHDAD NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 7238

DEPT PLS PASS AS DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS EG SF OGEN

SUBJECT: NIJACKED VC-10

1. ALL HOSTAGES RELEASED 1430 ZULU. THREE MEMBERS OF ORIGINAL FLIGHT CREW AND ONE RELIEF PILOT ADDED TO CREW ALSO ABOARD.

2. EXCHANGE OF HOSTAGES FOR TERRORISTS PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY EXCEPT FOR LAST MINUTE HITCH REGARDING DUBAI NATIONAL EMPLOYED BY DUBAI CATERING FIRM WHO HAD ACTED AS INTERPRETER BETWEEN BRITISH FLIGHT CREW AND HIJACKERS. CREW AND HIJACKERS, CLAIMING NEED FOR INTERPRETER, REQUESTED DUBAI NATIONAL TO
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CONTINUE WITH FLIGHT AND HE HAD REPORTEDLY VOLUNTEERED. SUBSE-

QUENT CONVERSATION WITH RELEASED PASSENGERS INDICATES CONTRARY.
DUTCH AMBASSADOR REFUSED TO RELEASE TWO TERRORISTS UNTIL DUBAI
NATIONAL RELEASED. REFUSAL LED TO ANGRY EXCHANGE BETWEEN FOREIGN
MINISTER CHATTI AND DUTCH AMBASSADOR. PROBLEM SETTLED WHEN,
AT INSISTENCE OF PILOT VC-10, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT ONE OF THE
DUTCH-BASED TERRORISTS HAD ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAPABILITY.

3. TRANSFER OF DUTCH BASED TERRORISTS TO VC-10 HAS COMMENCED.

4. EMBOFF (AT 1510 ZULU) TOLD BY BELKHODJA THAT PLANE MAY NOT
SOON LEAVE TUNIS FOR TECHNICAL REASONS, EXPLAINED AS POSSI-
BILITY THAT "THEY", I.E. HIJACKERS, MAY NOT WANT TO LEAVE.
POSSIBILITY OF NORTH YEMEN BEING DISCUSSED AS DESTINATION.
SEELYE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, TERRORISTS, PRISONERS RELEASE, HOSTAGES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, OGEN, PFOR, EG, SF, BOAC
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Type: TE
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